

News Release



Controller of the State of California - Kathleen Connell

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For Immediate Release

STATE CONTROLLER KATHLEEN CONNELL RELEASES LONG-TERM ENERGY CONTRACTS AND INVOICES

CONTROLLER HAILS COURT ORDER DIRECTING RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Sacramento, CA, June 29, 2001 – State Controller Kathleen Connell yesterday announced that she will make the long-term energy contracts and invoices in her possession public and will not appeal the Court Order.

“I have been in support of full disclosure since the State entered the energy business, because it is the only way taxpayers can be assured that government is working in their interest,” Connell said.

Wednesday, San Diego Superior Court Judge Linda B. Quinn heard arguments in a Public Records Act case filed by Republican lawmakers and news organizations seeking details about long-term and spot market contracts and information.

“The Administration negotiated contracts with clauses that keep Californians in the dark about the energy crisis. There is no reason that the veil of secrecy should not be lifted and I see absolutely no reason to appeal the Court’s Order with regard to these contracts, simply to delay the process further.”

For months, reporters and lawmakers have been demanding this information, and I am pleased to make the information available.”

Because the State Controller’s Office pays the State’s bills, all energy contracts must be forwarded to the Controller’s Office. The Controller planned to share information about energy purchases several months ago, however, at the request of the Administration and upon receipt of an Attorney General’s opinion, the information was not released.

“I hope this disclosure will satisfy the need for information among the public, the news media and lawmakers,” said Connell.

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***Copies of the contracts and invoices may be obtained from the Controller’s Office
by contacting Stacey Ragland at (916) 445-2636***

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